AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph on page 2 of the Preliminary Amendment as follows:

This application ~~invention~~ is a continuation of copending and commonly assigned U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/510,278, entitled MECHANISM FOR DATA FORWARDING, filed February 21, 2000, now U.S. Patent No. 6,707,831, the disclosure of which is hereby incorporated by reference herein.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 11, line 24, of the Specification as follows:

The two sets of data, WRB 520 and WRB-1 525, going into the MUX 500 on FIGURE 5 represent data from two different pipeline stages, or data from two different stages in a single pipeline. The vector N is used to select one from each of those pipeline stages, and then the last two signals, shown in FIGURE 8B, selects between the pair that was selected from the first set. Effectively, the MUX first selects two and then selects one from those two. Finally, the selwrbs of FIGURE 8B are conditioned on the fact that there was no selwrb-1. This is similar to the prioritization scheme shown in FIGURE 8A.